

Remarks

Claims 1-4 and 7-17 are pending and are under consideration.

Claim 1 is amended to remove an alternate definition for group E. E must now be a group bearing at least one stable free nitroxyl radical which is bound via the oxygen atom to the polymer or copolymer.

No new matter is added.

Claims 1-4, 7-9, 11-13, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Schimmel, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 6,197,833.

Claims 10, 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schimmel in view of Sherwin, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 4,711,944.

Applicants submit that the present rejections address and obviate these rejections. E must now bear at least one stable free nitroxyl radical.

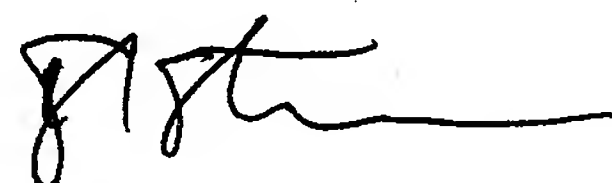
In view of the present amendments, Applicants submit that the claim rejections are addressed and are overcome.

The Examiner is kindly requested to reconsider and to withdraw the present rejections.

Applicants submit that the present claims are now in condition for allowance and respectfully request that they be found allowable.

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Respectfully submitted,



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